

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2006

SECRET

PRP:

STAFF

ACTIONS: EUR/I-2 (743) INFO: ODPD-0, RF, VR, FILE, EUDORECARD, ODO-4,
DC/EUR/N3, DC/EUR/S3, EUR/G-2, EUR/OPS, EUR/PMT, EUR/REG, C/LA, DC/LA,
LA/CRB-4, LA/OPS, LA/REG, AGC/DDO, EPS/EG-2, IAD/CTG-5, IAD/ENO, IAD/OCG,
IAD/PES, IAD/REG, (J5/W)

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TOR: 311834Z JAN 83

IN 0398799
C 240165

SECRET 311815Z JAN 83 STAFF

CITE: C 240165

TO: C INFO DIRECTOR, C

WNINTEL C

SUBJECT: ARREST OF KLAUS ALTMANN

REF: C 25414 0381108

SC/ED	TO WHI PROGRAM
	EXEMPT
SE/MS	INDEX
	REF-7 REST. CODE FOR COMET DOCUMENT
W/CH	CODE
	RYBAT REST. CODE FOR HIGH-COMET DOCUMENT
FR/PS	FILE CHANGED TO DC/CS
	FILE CHANGED TO DIVISION OR STAFF

1. REF REPORT ON THE ARREST OF EX-NAZI KLAUS ((ALTMANN)), ALIAS KLAUS ((BARBIE)), IS TRUE. THE ARREST RESULTED WHEN ALTMANN TRIED TO PAY OFF A US\$10,000 DEBT TO A GOVERNMENT ENTITY IN PESOS AT THE OFFICIAL EXCHANGE RATE. HAVING EXCHANGED DOLLARS AT THE PARALLEL RATE, ALTMANN WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SETTLE THIS LONG PENDING DEBT FOR NEARLY HALF OF THE ORIGINAL AMOUNT. BOLIVIAN OFFICIALS INVOLVED BECAME INCENSED AT ALTMANN'S AUDACITY, ARRESTED HIM, AND OFFERED TO EXTRADITE HIM TO WEST GERMANY.

2. THE ABOVE ACTION APPARENTLY CAUGHT THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT BY SURPRISE. WE HAVE LEARNED UNOFFICIALLY THAT THE WEST GERMANS MAY NOT BE ALL THAT CONFIDENT THAT THEY HAVE A VIABLE CASE AGAINST ALTMANN SINCE MANY OF THE ORIGINAL WITNESSES HAVE LONG SINCE DIED. TOO, THE WEST GERMANS MAY HAVE BEEN GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS IN THEIR PAST EXTRAIDITION EFFORTS KNOWING THAT THE BOLIVIAN MILITARY GOVERNMENTS WOULD NOT SURRENDER HIM.

3. THE ALTMANN CASE IS NOW PENDING BEFORE THE BOLIVIAN SUPREME COURT. WISH TO REMIND ADDRESSEES THAT WHEREAS THE SILES GOVERNMENT IS LEFTIST AND WOULD LIKE TO RID ITSELF OF ALTMANN, THE SUPREME COURT IS NOT. THE SUPREME COURT WAS APPOINTED BY A RIGHTIST AND ESSENTIALLY OPPOSITION CONGRESS AND THE SUPREME COURT ORIENTATION REFLECTS THAT OF CONGRESS. FRANKLY, WE WOULD BE SURPRISED IF THE SUPREME COURT ALLOWED ALTMANN TO BE EXTRADITED. ONCE A DECISION IS MADE ON ALTMANN'S CASE, HOWEVER,

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STATION WILL INFORM ADDRESSEES.

4. NO FILE. DECL OADR DRV HUM 4-82. ALL SECRET.

END OF MESSAGE

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